

ARTS BB

TOPIC: BOOKS/NONFICTION

TIME: 01/04 7:19 PM

TO: GERARD MCNALLY (VXWA32A)

FROM: GERARD MCNALLY (VXWA32A)

SUBJECT: JFK INFO/OPS

I checked my sources and cannot verify your claim that the HSCA clocked the M/C at 2400fps muzzle velocity. I believe you are not consulting original/accurate sources. The HSCA's own attempts at verifying the possibility of the SBT used a figure somewhat in excess of 2000fps or between 2000-2100 fps. Not a big diff (5%). The gist of the HSCA's and Posner's reasonings on the SBT is that:

- 1) THE round is very high velocity; comparable to an AK47 or the most powerful military assault rifle;
- 2) The bullet is heavy (400gns) and very stable; it is fully metal jacketed and has great cross-sectional density.
- 3) The key to understanding the condition of the bullet and the entrance wound on JBC's back lies in a simple concept that the WC overlooked: bullets slow down as they pass through a medium (tissue).
- 4) The bullet slowed and became aerodynamically unstable ie tumbled creating the jagged back wound and slowed gradually down to about 900 fps when it hit his wrist. The 6.5MM round can pass through 24 ins of plywood and be undeformed.

Incidentally, the frags taken from Connelly's wrist were matched by neutron activation with CE 399.

If you've only been reading the assassination literature, all of this is likely to be news to you.

If you're interested in the ballistics of the SBT, find a copy of Mortal Error. Dohahue is the EXPERT.

*D. Bartholomew
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info on LBS's call
to Parshland
re: Crashman*